DEFENSE HEALTH NETWORK PACIFIC RIM

NAVAL MEDICAL FORCES PACIFIC

PACIFIC PULSE

Navy Dental Clinic Educates Base Children on Cavity Prevention

LEMOORE, Calif. (Feb. 13, 2025) — Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class Julian Salinas from Naval Health Clinic Lemoore's dental clinic helped students at Admiral Akers School practice proper teeth brushing on a stuffed dinosaur. (U.S. Navy photo by Elaine Heirigs Naval Health Clinic Lemoore/Navy Medicine Readiness and Training Command Lemoore Public Affairs / DVIDS.)

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A MESSAGE FROM REAR ADM. VALDES

Dear Team,

I continue to be impressed by the incredible work happening across Defense Health Network Pacific Rim and Naval Medical Forces Pacific. Your commitment to delivering world-class care while advancing medical readiness is evident in the numerous achievements and initiatives highlighted in this edition of Pacific Pulse.

Several efforts particularly stand out. At Naval Medical Center San Diego (NMCSD), the team saw 143 deliveries in January—a testament to their coordinated efforts to maintain optimal capacity for our growing military families. Meanwhile, U.S. Naval Hospital (USNH) Guam hosted a visit with House Armed Services Committee staff during which they discussed increasing health care demands associated with the regional troop build-up.

Additionally, our Expeditionary Medical Facility (EMF) 150 Alpha recently deployed a medical team to Honduras for a two-week Global Health Engagement, where they provided critical orthopedic, general surgery, and anesthesia care to those in need. This deployment not only demonstrates our capability to project medical power abroad but also fosters partnerships and builds trust with our international partners.

Innovation remains a priority across our facilities. Naval Hospital (NH) Bremerton implemented enhanced Q-Flow software to streamline pharmacy operations, while USNH Okinawa launched an exciting telepathology pilot program in partnership with the Joint Pathology Center. These modernization efforts directly support DHA's goal of building a more integrated and resilient health care system.

(Continued on p. 3)

Rear. Adm. Guido Valdes

DHA PRIORITIES:

- Enabling combat support to the joint force in competition, crisis, or conflict
- Building a modernized, integrated, and resilient health delivery system
- Dedicated and inspired teams of professionals driving military health's next evolution

A MESSAGE FROM REAR ADM. VALDES

I'm especially proud of our commitment to developing our people. From NH/NMRTC Camp Pendleton's Division Officer Leadership Course to NMCSD's certified registered nurse anesthetist recruitment initiative, we continue investing in our greatest asset —our staff.

Our partnerships, both within DoD and with host nation allies, continue to strengthen. USNH/USNMRTC Yokosuka's participation in Exercise Nankai Rescue 2025 alongside Japanese counterparts demonstrated our interoperability in humanitarian response scenarios. Similarly, Naval Health Clinic Lemoore's collaboration with the VA Central California Health System shows our commitment to strengthening partnerships to enhance training.

These highlights represent just a fraction of the outstanding work you do every day. Whether you're providing direct patient care, supporting our warfighters' medical readiness, or advancing military medicine through research and innovation, your efforts directly contribute to our mission of improving health and building readiness.

Thank you for your continued dedication to excellence. Together, we are setting the standard for military medical care across the Pacific Rim.

Respectfully,
RDML Guido Valdes, MC, USN
Commander, Naval Medical Forces Pacific
Director, Defense Health Network Pacific Rim

Capt. Aaron Werbel, NHC Lemoore director, greets staff from VA Central California Health Care System. (Photo courtesy of Elaine Heirigs, NHCL PAO.)

Surgeon General's Lines of Efforts:

LOE 1. Deliver Expeditionary Medicine Systems (EXMEDS)

LOE 2. Increase Sailor and Marine Deployability

LOE 3. Provide Quality Healthcare and Patient Safety Across the Naval Force

LOE 4. Recruit and Retain Navy Medicine Shipmates

DIRECTOR'S ASSESSMENT HIGHLIGHTS

NMC/NMRTC San Diego

The medical center saw a significant increase in deliveries during January, with 143 babies born at the facility. The increase, attributed to coordinated staff efforts, aligns with the MTF's goal to maintain between 140-150 deliveries per month.

USNH/USNMRTC Guam

The hospital hosted House Armed Services Committee staff member Amelia Litynski on Jan. 31 to discuss military health care on the island. The visit focused on increased demand due to troop build-up and Veterans Affairs partnerships. Litynski serves as a staff member for Rep. Tom Emmer, the Republican majority whip.

NMCSD's Labor and Delivery Department. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Luke Cunningham / DVIDS.)

Naval Hospital Bremerton Pharmacy. (Official Navy photo by Douglas H Stutz, NHB/NMRTC Bremerton public affairs officer / DVIDS.)

DEFEND THE NATION

Innovate and Modernize

NH/NMRTC Bremerton

The MTF implemented enhanced Q-Flow queuing software Jan. 31 to improve pharmacy operations. The update highlights patient text messages, streamlining check-in processes and ensuring staff capture all patient communications throughout the pharmacy experience.

NH/NMRTC Camp Pendleton

The MTF hosted Defense Health Agency Sustainability Team representatives Jan. 4-6 for an Environmental Compliance Baseline Assessment. The team, led by R. Mancha, conducted the evaluation in accordance with DHA instruction, with final results expected within 30 days.

DEFEND THE NATION

Innovate and Modernize

NHC/NMRTC Lemoore

Naval Branch Health Clinic (NBHC) Fallon, a unit of the NHC Lemoore, completed its first Behavioral Health Resources and Virtual Experience (BRAVE) appointment Feb. 4. BRAVE provides active duty service members 24/7 access to TRICARE-authorized mental health providers credentialed through Brooke Army Medical Center in Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

USNH/USNMRTC Okinawa

The hospital launched a telepathology pilot program Jan. 18 in partnership with the Joint Pathology Center (JPC). The digital pathology system enables virtual consultations with external experts, eliminating specimen shipping requirements and improving efficiency. Lt. Col. Victoria Maher, chief medical information officer at Madigan Army Medical Center, Col. Mark Lyman, JPC director, and Daniel Butler, JPC chief information officer, conducted on-site training for the capability, which may expand to other Indo-Pacific locations.

A bank of scanners operates 24 hours a day at the Joint Pathology Center (Department of Defense photo by Jeffrey Landenberger / DVIDS.)

TAKING CARE OF OUR PEOPLE

Grow our Talent

EMF Alpha monthly award recipients. (Photo courtesy of NHCP.)

NH/NMRTC Camp Pendleton

Capt. Michael Barry, acting hospital director, and Capt. Kenneth Basford, Expeditionary Medical Facility (EMF) 150 Alpha commanding officer, recognized Sailors and civilian employees during the monthly awards ceremony for their accomplishments and lengths of service, Jan. 23.

TAKING CARE OF OUR PEOPLE

Grow our Talent

NH/NMRTC Camp Pendleton

The MTF hosted the Division Officer Leadership Course Jan. 13-16 for officers from Southern California region commands, including NMC San Diego and 1st Medical Battalion. The course focused on foundational leadership principles and professional development to help students develop their own leadership style.

Six nurses graduated from the hospital's Nurse Residency Program Jan. 27 during a capstone event officiated by Capt. Sara Naczas, director of nursing services. Lt. Cmdr. Samantha Knight and Lt. Mary Hinson co-chaired the program, where graduates presented process improvement recommendations based on their residency experiences. The graduates were Lt. j.g. Princess Ekudi, Ensign Madison Harrison, Ensign Raquel Kauthen, Ensign Jimmy Manikhong, Ensign Izabela Marasco, and Ensign Luciana Poka.

NHCP graduated six nurses from the Nurse Residency Program during a ceremony held in the hospital galley meeting room. (Official U.S. Navy photo by Photo by Petty Officer 3rd Class Meranda Onouye / DVIDS.)

Capt. Jenny Burkett, NHCP director, presents "Good Catch" awards to outstanding staff. (Photo from NHCP Facebook.)

NH/NMRTC Camp Pendleton

Capt. Jenny Burkett, hospital director, presented Good Catch Awards to 10 staff members during the monthly Culture of Safety, Innovation and Process Improvement, Navigating Standards, and Quality Outcomes meeting Jan. 22. Chief Medical Officer Capt. Ben Hoagland led the meeting, which included recognition of Branch Health Clinic Yuma staff via Microsoft Teams.

TAKING CARE OF OUR PEOPLE

Grow Our Talent

NH/NMRTC Camp Pendleton

The hospital's chief medical officer, chief nursing officer, and chief dental officer attended a leadership conference Feb. 3-7 at Defense Health Headquarters in Falls Church, Va., joining counterparts from military treatment facilities across the enterprise.

Command leadership welcomed new staff members Feb. 5 during Command Orientation, providing foundational information for their tour.

NH Camp Pendleton

Above: Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class Brenton Brown.

Right: Lt. Nicholas Lamal.

(Photos courtesy of Elaine Heirigs, NHCL PAO.)

NHC/NMRTC Lemoore

Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class Brenten Brown from NBHC Fallon earned Camp Lemonier's Blue Jacket Sailor of the Quarter award during his deployment to Djibouti. As the sole aerospace medicine technician, he managed AFRICOM's only audio booth, maintaining 98% hearing compliance and contributing to a 98% active duty return-to-duty rate for more than 2,000 sick call encounters.

Lt. Nicholas Lamal earned recognition as fiscal year 2024 Junior Environmental Health Officer of the Year. His work ensuring safe drinking water production and distribution was acknowledged as the gold standard during Commander, Navy Installations Command's 2024 drinking water system sanitary survey.

TAKING CARE OF OUR PEOPLE

Grow Our Talent

NHC/NMRTC Lemoore

Lt. Cmdr. Paul Gonzales from NBHC Fallon attended the Joint Administrative Concept Essentials course Jan. 14-16 in Falls Church, Virginia. The training focused on foundational financial and operational skills for new military treatment facility administrators.

Population Health Nurse Educator Jeanne Liburdi supported data tracking for The Joint Commission National Patient Safety Goals while providing dedicated patient education for diabetes, cancer screenings and other health matters. She recently spent a full day supporting a patient with abnormal test results, coordinating referrals and follow-up testing.

Jeanne Liburdi, population health nurse educator from NCH Lemoore. (Photo courtesy of Elaine Heirigs, NHCL PAO.)

NMC/NMRTC San Diego

Building on the success of their Division Officer Leadership Course, NMCSD's facilitators helped establish a similar program at Naval Hospital Camp Pendleton Jan. 13-16.

The MTF's certified registered nurse anesthetists hosted an open house Jan. 24 to engage with potential applicants and generate interest in the field.

USNH/USNMRTC Okinawa

Air Force Capt. Yessenia Greene, deputy director of the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command Armed Services Blood Bank Center at USNHO, earned Company Grade Officer of the Year for her Air Force Element. This recognition advances her to competition at the 2024 Annual Awards Program at the Air Force surgeon general level.

U.S. Air Force Capt. Yessenia Geene. (Photo courtesy of Trey Savitz, USNHO PAO.)

TAKING CARE OF OUR PEOPLE

Grow Our Talent

USNH/USNMRTC Yokosuka

Twenty staff members enhanced their leadership skills and understanding of financial issues to enable data-driven decisions during Defense Health Agency J8 Financial Management Information System training Jan. 16-17 at New Sanno Hotel in Tokyo.

Build Resilience and Readiness

NH/NMRTC Bremerton

The hospital conducted a Hearing Conservation Course Jan. 27-31 at the Bremerton Health and Education Center. Eight participants from NHB, USS Ronald Reagan, and NHC Oak Harbor completed the quarterly training, which promotes readiness through hearing loss prevention programs, increasing the number of personnel qualified to perform audiograms.

A corpsman examines a patient aboard the Navy's forward-deployed aircraft carrier USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76). (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Timothy M. Black / DVIDS.)

NH Bremerton

NH/NMRTC Bremerton

Twenty-three active duty Sailors from the hospital attended a Personal Resilience Workshop Jan. 14 at Kitsap Great Escape. The pastoral care-led event focused on team building, effective communication, and personal resilience skills to enhance unit effectiveness.

Sixteen junior Sailors participated in a two-day Resilience and Readiness Workshop Jan. 27-28 at the command chapel. Subject matter experts led sessions on goal setting, overcoming obstacles, support networks, financial management, and leadership development to enhance the Sailors' ability to navigate personal and professional challenges.

TAKING CARE OF OUR PEOPLE

Build Resilience and Readiness

NH/NMRTC Camp Pendleton

EMF 150 Alpha deployed a medical team to Honduras Jan. 25 for a two-week Global Health Engagement focused on orthopedics, general surgery, and anesthesia care.

NHC/NMRTC Lemoore

Hospitalman Ashlye Corley led the annual inspection of lead personnel protective equipment Jan. 14. Her team accounted for 80 radiation shields to ensure they were in good working condition and verified compliance with As Low As Reasonably Achievable (ALARA) standards for patient and staff radiation protection as set forth by The Joint Commission.

Hospitalman Ashlye Corley. (Photo courtesy of Elaine Heirigs, NHCL PAO.)

Lt. Cmdr. Cheryl Buckly. (Photo courtesy of Elaine Heirigs, NHCL PAO.)

NHC/NMRTC Lemoore

Staff from the entire clinic recognized Lt. Cmdr. Cheryl Buckley, director of healthcare business, Jan. 24 for her leadership in correcting more than 1,000 referral errors within three weeks. Her team coordinated with local providers, beneficiaries, TriWest representatives and DHA leadership to ensure timely referral processing.

NHC/NMRTC Oak Harbor

Capt. Mark Lund, MTF director, briefed the base ombudsman group Jan. 28 about the upcoming clinic patient family partnership council and My Military Health virtual appointments.

TAKING CARE OF OUR PEOPLE

Build Resilience and Readiness

NMC/NMRTC San Diego

The medical center hosted its 12th annual Invincible Spirit Festival Feb. 1 featuring actor Gary Sinise, the Lt. Dan Band, and celebrity chef Robert Irvine. The event included food, entertainment, and activities for service members and their families, including wounded warriors.

The Lt. Dan Band performs during the 2023 Invincible Spirit Festival at NMCSD. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Jacob Woitzel / DVIDS.)

USNH/USNMRTC Guam

The hospital hosted medical officer and enlisted detailers Jan. 23-24, providing active duty staff with mentorship and one-on-one career guidance.

The hospital also conducted a full-scale exercise with Commander, Submarine Squadron 15, focusing on radiological emergency response operations.

The USNHO team attending a two-day leadership symposium. (Photo courtesy of Trey Savitz, USNHO PAO.)

USNH/USNMRTC Okinawa

Twenty-five directors, senior enlisted leaders, and special assistants attended a two-day Command Religious Enrichment and Development Operation (CREDO) symposium Jan. 22. The training focused on effective communication, leadership strategies, and leveraging command expertise to enhance mission success.

TAKING CARE OF OUR PEOPLE

Build Resilience and Readiness

USNH/USNMRTC Yokosuka

The MTF hosted enlisted and officer detailer visits Jan. 30-31, offering community briefs and one-on-one sessions. The event included a placement officer meeting with Corps Chiefs and human resources staff.

Detailers visit USNH Yokosuka. (Photo courtesy of Daniel Taylor, USNHY Public Affairs.)

At the end of January, the hospital recertified to provide Pediatric Advanced Life Support, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, Basic Life Support, and Advanced Life Support courses with the Military Training Network through December 2026. This will ensure uninterrupted training for more than 1,200 personnel and 105 satellite training sites across the Indo-Pacific.

NMC San Diego

Ensure Accountable Leadership

NH/NMRTC Camp Pendleton

On Feb. 5, NHCP leadership visited branch clinics at Port Hueneme and Point Mugu, conducting staff calls with clinic personnel and office calls with base leadership.

NMC/NMRTC San Diego

The hospital director held two all-hands sessions on Feb. 5 to address developments in Office of Personnel Management civilian personnel policies, including the "Fork in the Road" email, and changes in telework and remote work. The sessions were well attended both in person and online, providing an opportunity to clarify known and unknown factors. Follow-up sessions are anticipated in two to three weeks.

TAKING CARE OF OUR PEOPLE

Ensure Accountable Leadership

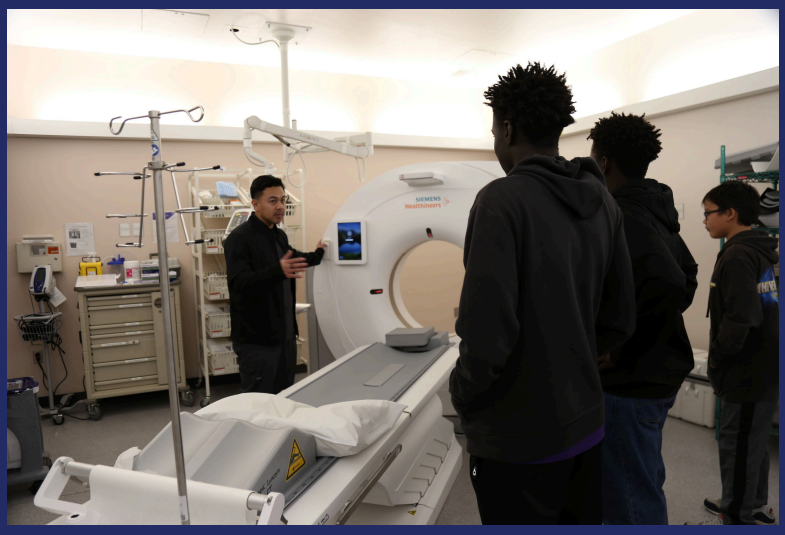
USNH/USNMRTC Okinawa

On Jan. 29, USNHO held a leadership offsite for 25 participants, focusing on long-term initiatives to optimize hospital operations, improve access to care, and enhance patient outcomes. Attendees participated in leadership exercises and were assigned process improvement projects with measurable goals.

Capt. Kathleen Cooperman, USNH Okinawa director, speaks to her team at a leadership offsite. (Photo courtesy of Trey Savitz, USNHO PAO.)

USNH/USNMRTC Guam

In January, teams from USNH Guam advanced the command's annual plan, focusing on combat readiness (trauma care, expeditionary medicine, mental health collaboration), patient care optimization (process improvements, resource management, technology integration), and workplace excellence (Sailor 360, professional development, and staff well-being).



NHC Lemoore's MRI. (Photo courtesy of Elaine Heirigs, NHCL PAO.)

USNH/USNMRTC Guam

The command hosted an Environmental Assist Visit by Naval Medical Forces Pacific from Jan. 13-17.

NHC/NMRTC Lemoore

From Jan. 27-31, radiological physics testing and an external radiation health program inspection were completed at NHCL's main facility and the Hornet Health Clinic at Naval Air Station Lemoore. On Feb. 4, an external inspection was conducted at NBHC Fallon at Naval Air Station Fallon. All sites successfully passed their annual physicist external audits with no deficiencies.

SUCCEED THROUGH TEAMWORK

Join Forces with Our Allies and Partners

NH/NMRTC Camp Pendleton

On Jan. 14, Capt. Jenny Burkett, NHCP director, and I MEF force surgeon, Capt. T. Deaton, co-chaired the Operational Medical Forces Liaison meeting with medical leaders from the hospital and I MEF to address healthcare delivery challenges and facilitate good relationships.

USNH/USNMRTC Okinawa

On Jan. 8, Dr. Yamauchi, a former Japanese fellow at USNHO and current emergency department head at Yuuai Medical Center, brought his team to visit the hospital. Following their visit, USNHO staff toured Yuuai Medical Center, where Dr. Studer and Dr. Yamauchi delivered a joint lecture on emergency medical services.

Former Japanese Fellow, Dr. Yamauchi, who is currently head of the emergency department at Yuuai Medical Center, visited the USNH Okinawa with his ER team (Photo courtesy of Trey Savitz, USNHO PAO.)

U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Sabra Szavuly, a medical technician assigned to the Ohio National Guard's 180th Fighter Wing, evaluates a newborn, July 18, 2023 at U.S Naval Hospital Okinawa, Japan. (U.U.S. Air National Guard Photo by Senior Master Sgt. Beth Holliker / DVIDS.)

USNH/USNMRTC Okinawa

On Jan. 13, NICU staff from Okinawa Prefectural Hospital visited USNHO. Hospital staff provided a NICU tour and discussed collaboration to enhance patient care.

NHC/NMRTC Lemoore

On Jan. 21, leadership from NHC Lemoore and the Veterans Administration (VA) Central California Health System met to renew a resource-sharing agreement and explore joint training opportunities.

NHC/NMRTC Oak Harbor

At the end of January, VA Puget Sound Health Care System employees working at the new clinic inside NCHOH began participating in NHC Oak Harbor's morning safety huddles, fostering improved communication and patient safety.

SUCCEED THROUGH TEAMWORK

Join Forces with Our Allies and Partners

Top: St. Luke's students.
Bottom: Capt. Torrin Velazquez with Japanese Fellows.
Below: Exercise Nankai Rescue 2025.
(Photos courtesy of Daniel Taylor, USNHY Public Affairs.)

USNH/USNMRTC Yokosuka

From Jan. 12-16, Capt. Torrin Velazquez, USNH Yokosuka director, and the command master chief traveled to Diego Garcia, British Indian Ocean Territory (BIOT), to assess base support and strengthen partnerships. They met with the UK Government's British Representative to BIOT, Capt. Jamison (CO, Naval Support Facility Diego Garcia), Capt. Helgerson (Commander, Maritime Pre-positioning Ship Squadron 2), and LCDR Frye (acting XO, U.S. Naval Computer and Telecommunications Station, Far East). Discussions focused on operational support for the base, refugee management, contractor coordination, and future collaborative efforts to ensure effective medical and logistical readiness. The visit reinforced US-UK cooperation and highlighted the strategic importance of Diego Garcia in the Indo-Pacific region.

On Jan. 13, USNHY hosted a tour for graduate students studying public health at St. Luke's International University in Tokyo, showcasing potential employment opportunities and areas for collaboration. Also that day, the hospital hosted a tour for four members of their 1981-1982 Japanese Fellowship class.

USNH/USNMRTC Yokosuka

On Jan. 15-16, staff assigned to BHC Iwakuni participated in Exercise Nankai Rescue 2025, a bilateral disaster response exercise involving 500 U.S. and Japanese personnel at Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni. Key activities included establishing a 350-bed temporary shelter, coordinating air and ground casualty evacuations with Japanese military aircraft, and setting up a Joint Humanitarian Operations Center. The exercise strengthened interoperability and readiness for humanitarian and disaster response operations in southern Japan.

SUCCEED THROUGH TEAMWORK

Strengthen Partnerships Across America

NMC/NMRTC San Diego

On Jan. 22, NMCSD welcomed retired Navy Capt. John Lamberton, DLH Healthcare Practice Leader, and other executives for a discussion on enhancing hospital-based research to improve patient care and public health. During their visit, guests toured the BioSkills lab, Virtual Medical Operations Center (VMOC), Clinical Investigations Department (CID), and Physical Therapy Department.

On Jan. 29, Capt. Elizabeth Adriano, NMCSD director, attended the Hospital Association of San Diego and Imperial Counties (HASD&IC) held its board meeting where the discussion focused on strategies for mitigating violence in hospital settings.

Capt. Elizabeth Adriano, NMCSD director, attended the San Diego Military Advisory Council (SDMAC) monthly breakfast on Jan. 30. The event focused on fostering collaboration between the military and local business communities.

Capt. Elizabeth Adriano with Ensign Sarah Martin, a med-surg nurse she delivered at NMCSD in 1999. (U.S. Navy photo by Marcelo Calero, NMCSD PAO / DVIDS.)

Volunteers from NHC Lemoore plant trees. (Photo courtesy of Elaine Heirigs, NHCL PAO.)

USNH/USNMRTC Guam

In February, the hospital began supporting senior nursing and physiology students from the University of Guam as they complete their final clinical hours required for graduation. This partnership ensures timely graduation, expands the local healthcare workforce, and reinforces the MTF's commitment to the island community's well-being.

NHC/NMRTC Lemoore

On Jan. 18, 16 volunteers from NHC Lemoore helped Sequoia Riverlands Trust Preserves plant 51 oak trees. The staff learned how to plant trees and the history of the lands of Kaweah Oak Preserve that expands over 346 acres.

SUCCEED THROUGH TEAMWORK

Build Unity Within the Department

NMC/NMRTC San Diego

On Jan. 9-10, NMCSD hosted a simulation center training event for 25 Hospital Corpsmen attached to EMF Camp Pendleton, focusing on trauma care skills sustainment, competency development, and warfighter readiness. During the course, the Corpsmen rotated through skills stations for needle decompression, tourniquet application, wound packing, airway management, and cricothyrotomy and participated in hands-on simulated exercises for casualty receiving and managing trauma patients from point of injury.

NMCSD Bioskills and Simulation Training Center. (U.S. Navy photo by Marcelo Calero, NMCSD PAO / DVIDS.)

Capt. Adriano, NMCSD director, attended the annual WEST Conference from Jan. 28-30, engaging with Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard leaders, and industry experts to explore pressing naval issues.

NMC/NMRTC San Diego

From Feb. 3-7, the Navy Blood Program and Armed Services Blood Program conducted a Technical Assist Visit to review the NMCSD's Blood Donor Center and blood utilization program.

USNH Guam

USNH/USNMRTC Guam

On Feb. 3, USNH Guam hosted a U.S. Army Reserve leadership engagement meeting to discuss medical support for mobilized Army Reserve units.

In February, the hospital renewed a memorandum of understanding with the 36th Medical Group at Andersen AFB to provide clinical sustainment support for critical functions, including laboratory, radiology, and dental services, which are not available within the Medical Group's capabilities.

SUCCEED THROUGH TEAMWORK

Build Unity Within the Department

NHC/NMRTC Oak Harbor

On Jan. 29, NHC Oak Harbor leadership toured Madigan Army Medical Center (MAMC), including radiology, laboratory, and simulation center facilities. During the visit, MAMC leadership presented coins to NHCOH personnel to recognize their exceptional support, including two NHCOH Sailors who provided support during a critical surgical event in which a wounded Soldier required 98 units of blood.

USNH/USNMRTC Yokosuka

From Jan. 6-10, a dentist at USNH Yokosuka's dental clinic in Diego Garcia completed 150 dental exams in one week, providing critical dental care when USS Stockdale extended their stay on the island.

USNH Yokosuka's Diego Garcia dental team. (Photo courtesy of Daniel Taylor, USNHY Public Affairs.)

Japanese Fellows from USNH Yokosuka coordinated a mochitsuki (mochi pounding) cultural exchange event for their U.S. counterparts at the hospital Jan. 21. Mochi, a popular Japanese snack, is made by pounding steamed short-grain Japanese sticky rice, called mochigome, with a wooden mallet during a ceremony called mochitsuki. (U.S. Navy photos by Daniel Taylor, USNHY Public Affairs.)